

Chapter 1607(REAP) GI Bill

Overview:

The Chapter 1607 GI Bill Program was established on 28 October 2004 to recognize Reserve Component Soldier's who have been mobilized for 90 days or more on or after 11 September 2001. Currently the only Title 32, section 502f period of duty that has been authorized for Ch 1607 eligibility is 11 September 2001-31 May 2002. **The orders for this period MUST state duty was in "Support of Noble Eagle. Note that this GI Bill is based solely on qualifying service.** As with all other GI Bill Programs eligible Soldiers can receive up to 36 months of benefit in any single GI Bill Program. Soldiers eligible for two or more GI Bill Programs can receive a maximum of 48 months of benefits. More information regarding Chapter 1607 or any other GI Bill Program can be found on the VA's website at www.gibill.va.gov.

Buy-Up:

Like the Chapter 30(Active Duty) GI Bill, Chapter 1607 offers Soldiers to make an election to buy into a portion of this benefit thus allowing them to receive additional funding on top of their regular Chapter 1607 GI Bill benefit. This is a great benefit for Soldiers who do not have a GI Bill Kicker or for Military Technicians and AGR Soldiers since their Kickers are suspended. However, if you already have a Kicker, your Chapter 1607, buy-up, and your GI Bill Kicker can all be used in conjunction with each other. Any Soldier in the National Guard/Reserves to include IRR and ING who is eligible for Chapter 1607 may at any time contribute up to \$600 for the purpose of receiving an increased monthly payment rate. ARNG Soldiers separating from the Selected Reserve (SELRES) to serve the remainder of their Military Service Obligation in the IRR are strongly encouraged to make their Buy-Up contribution BEFORE transferring to the IRR. Once an ARNG Soldier has transferred to the IRR, the Soldier must contact the US Army Reserve to make their Chapter 1607 contribution. ARNG Soldiers that separated from the SELRES between 28 January 2008 and 22 December 2010 and returned to a civilian status may contribute to the Ch 1607 Buy-Up Program. At this time, the Reserve Component pay system does NOT allow Soldiers to make this contribution in the form of monthly allotments from military pay. Therefore, contributions must be made by Certified Check or Money Order (no personal checks will be accepted). The law allows contributions to be made in increments of \$20; however, interested Soldiers are strongly encouraged to make a single lump sum payment of \$600 in order to maximize benefit payments. For every \$20 contributed the VA will increase the Soldier's monthly Chapter 1607 payment by \$5. A full \$600 contribution will increase a Soldier's monthly payment rate by \$150. Soldiers utilizing the full 36 months of benefit will receive a total of \$5,400 in Buy-Up payment increases for their \$600 contribution. Rate increases are based on full-time attendance. Payments for less than full-time are pro-rated.

How to contribute to Buy-Up:

Soldiers who wish to participate in the Chapter 1607 Buy-Up MUST meet the criteria listed in the above section and mail either a Certified Check or Money Order (no personal checks will be accepted) for not less than \$20 and not more than \$600 made payable to the "US Department of Treasury", the completed REAP Buy-Up enrollment form, a copy of the DD 214 from their most recent deployment to:

ARNG Education Support Center
Attn: REAP Buy-Up Program
Box 46
Camp Robinson
North Little Rock, AR 72199

If multiple payments are made, the DD 214 should only be included with the first payment. The DD Form 2366-1 will be used for the Buy-Up Program until a new form is created for this purpose. The form will be clearly marked to indicate the contribution was paid into the REAP Buy-Up program. The ARNG GI Bill Support Team will email a copy of the DD Form 2366-1, DD 1131, and a photocopy of the Certified Check or Money Order to the Soldier's AKO email account upon completion of the Buy-Up enrollment process. These documents will also be scanned into the Soldier's IPERMS file. **IT IS THE SOLDIER'S SOLE RESPONSIBILITY TO SUBMIT A COPY OF THE DD 2366-1, DD 1131, AND A COPY OF THEIR DD 214 TO THEIR VA REP AT THEIR SCHOOL TO RECEIVE THEIR BENEFITS.** Soldiers are eligible to receive their additional Buy-Up payments beginning the first enrollment period after the contribution was made.

APPENDIX A

Reserve Educational Assistance Program (REAP) Chapter 1607 BUY-UP PROGRAM

The Reserve Educational Assistance Program Chapter 1607 (10 U.S.C. 16162) Buy-Up program provides additional educational assistance to members of the reserve components called or ordered to active service in response to a contingency operation or national emergency declared by the President or Congress.

1. Name (Print): _____ Rank: _____ SSN: _____
(Last, First, MI)

2. Home Mailing Address (Street, Apartment No., City,
State and Zip Code)

3. State of Assignment:

4. Day Time Telephone Number with Area Code:

5. AKO email address:

6. Military Status: (Check One)

☐ Drilling ARNG Soldier ☐ Inactive National Guard (ING) ☐ Individual Ready Reserve (IRR)

7. Enrollment into the REAP Buy-Up program:

I am a member of the Ready Reserve (Selected Reserve, Inactive National Guard (ING) or Individual Ready Reserve (IRR)) who has been mobilized in support of a contingency operation on or after September 11, 2001 with remaining entitlement to REAP benefits. I elect to contribute into the REAP Buy-Up program. In addition to my monthly REAP benefit, I understand for every \$20 contributed the Department of Veterans Affairs will increase my monthly REAP payment by \$5. A full \$600 contribution will increase my monthly payment rate by \$150. If I utilize the full 36 months of REAP entitlement I will receive a total of \$5,400 in Buy-Up payment increases for my \$600 contribution. These rate increases are based on full-time attendance. Payments for less than full-time attendance are pro-rated. If I elect to convert my REAP benefits to Chapter 33, the Post-9/11 Veteran's Educational Assistance Act of 2008, I understand I will not receive a refund from my Buy-Up contribution nor will I receive an any additional monthly payment increase from this Buy-Up program.

(Initials)

8a. Contribution Amount: \$ _____ 8b. Money Order or Cashiers Check Number: _____

9. SERVICEMEMBER

a. SIGNATURE: _____ b. DATE SIGNED: _____
(yyyymmdd)

10. NGB OFFICIAL OR DESIGNEE

NAME (Print) (Last, First)

SIGNATURE

DATE SIGNED
(yyyymmdd)

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY: